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SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE



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# Sweet Briar

## NEWSLETTER

BULLETIN OF SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE

NOVEMBER 1966

### Challenge Grant Offered for Student Center

Spurred by a challenge grant of \$40,000 to be matched by December 31, students, parents, and alumnae are involved in fund-raising for the latest campus building project, remodeling of the Recreation Building.

Known to students as the "Date House," this small frame structure was built in 1948 and enlarged a few years later. Plans are now being readied for a complete remodeling and expansion, to convert it into a Campus Center.

The entire building is to be faced with brick and preliminary drawings indicate a new wing, to extend into the present parking area. Special features include a Rathskeller-type room on the ground level, a lounge, TV room, coffee shop, a new kitchen, private meeting and dining rooms, and a sizable public dining room, with French doors opening onto a terrace. The Box-

wood Inn Tea Room is to be converted to other uses.

An enthusiastic Student Development Committee, under the chairmanship of Peggy Pittman, '67, is busily engaged in several money-raising ventures, including Sundae Nights (ice cream parties for the entire community) and others, to meet the challenge grant pledged by Mr. and Mrs. Edward T. Wailes. Mr. Wailes is a member of the Board of Directors and Mrs. Wailes is an alumna in the Class of 1926.

Funds in hand before the end of October totaled \$86,587, of which nearly \$5500 counts toward matching the challenge.

Architects for this building are Clark, Nexsen & Owen, Lynchburg. Although no date has been set for construction, it is hoped that it may begin next spring.

### Three Colleges Start New Computer Center

Data processing is coming to Sweet Briar!

The Educational Computer Center, established jointly by Sweet Briar, Randolph-Macon Woman's College, and Lynchburg College, came into being last June. The Center is located in Lynchburg, and Donald G. McCants, formerly an account representative with the data processing division of International Business Machines, is director of the new facility.

With the aid of staff members from the three colleges, Mr. McCants is in charge of developing automated procedures for student records, alumnae and development office records, and business office accounting operations. Once these have been put into working order, other operations will be added.

The Center will also be used in the instructional programs of the three colleges and it will provide computing facilities for research problems of faculty members and advanced students.

As an outgrowth of these proposed uses of the Center, a course in basic programming concepts in different fields will be offered next semester at Sweet Briar. The need for such a course has become apparent in recent years, as an increasing number of positions which require computer-programming and related techniques are opened to graduating seniors.

The Center will be equipped with an IBM 1401 two-tape, two-disc computer, and it is anticipated that it will take approximately 15 months for installing equipment, staffing, programming, and implementing the various systems. When completed, the computer will make available information and operating procedures not now available or else obtainable only through the expenditure of a great deal of time and effort.

Preliminary preparation for the change-over to the computer has been

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M. von Briesen photo

Taken early in October, this picture shows progress of construction of the Charles A. Dana wing of the Mary Helen Cochran Library, to be completed by spring. Three levels of book stacks will hold 68,000 volumes, increasing present capacity by 68%. Additional study carrels and cubicles, expanded office and work space, rooms for microfilm readers and audio-visual equipment, increased catalogue area, rare book and archives rooms, space for the Kellogg Educational Laboratory Library, and other improvements are features of the addition and remodeling.

## Sweet Briar Senior Elected by YWCA

Peggy Pittman, a senior from Columbia, S. C., has been elected a vice-chairman of the National Student YWCA for 1966-67. As one of six students elected to national office, Peggy will be consultant on the association program in the Southern Region.

In announcing Peggy's appointment, Mrs. Margaret E. Norton, executive officer, wrote: "I wish to express my congratulations for the quality of leadership which Miss Pittman displayed during the meetings of the National Student Council of the YWCA, Aug. 27 - Sept. 3, 1966, and my anticipation for her continued growth in leadership during this coming year."



Peggy was president of the Sweet Briar YWCA last year, having been in the organization since her freshman year. At the Opening Convocation in September, she was named as winner of the Manson Memorial Alumnae Scholarship, one of two honor awards at Sweet Briar, given in recognition of high academic standing, qualities of leadership, and contribution to student activities.

Chairman of the Student Development Committee this year, Peggy also headed the Parents' Day planning committee.

A graduate of A. C. Flora High School, Peggy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Pittman.

## The 61st Year

### Statistically Speaking

- Total enrollment—Opening Day — 714 from 42 states, D. C., and 17 foreign countries
- Class of 1967 — 141
- Class of 1968 — 132 (plus 23 studying abroad)
- Class of 1969 — 191
- Unclassified — 5 (3 foreign, 2 adult special students)
- Transfer students: 12, including 9 juniors and 3 sophomores
- Class of 1970 — 245, chosen from 869 completed applications; 22 alumnae daughters; 8 sisters of past or present students
- 59% entered from 121 public schools
- 41% entered from 83 independent schools
- Geographic distribution: Northeast, 89 (37%); Middle and north west, 29 (12%); Far west, 3 (1%); Southeast, 103 (42%); Southwest, 18 (7%); Foreign, 3 (1%)
- Largest state representations: Virginia, 37; New York, 21; New Jersey, 16; North Carolina and Texas, 12 each; Georgia and Massachusetts, 10 each
- High school class standing: 65% in top fifth, including 44% in top tenth
- National Merit Scholar: Susan Hampton, Vienna, Va.
- Financial aid: 25 received scholarships, ranging from \$600 to \$2,350

## Education is Topic of Convocation Talk

A distinguished woman, Dr. Pauline Tompkins, general director of the American Association of University Women since 1959 and president-elect of Cedar Crest College, was the speaker at opening Convocation in September.

In her talk, "New Imperatives for Higher Education," she stressed the universal importance of education for international understanding.

"The evolution of a trans-national perspective, ultimately affecting the conduct of foreign policy," she said, "will derive principally from an education attuned philosophically and in curriculum to an understanding of the insistent present, and from education conceived in the highest sense as a civilizing mission. . . . To whatever degree we are able to achieve these purposes, we will redeem our faith in education, and we will enhance the prospects for mankind."

## Choir Plans Concerts

The Choir, enlarged to 66 with the admittance of 31 new members in September, is planning three joint concerts this year, according to Dr. G. Noble Gilpin, director, and Leslie Huber, '67, head of Choir.

The first will take place Sunday, Nov. 20, in the Memorial Chapel, with the Georgetown University singers, directed by Paul Hume. A return engagement, at Georgetown, is planned for April.

The University of Pittsburgh men's chorus will come to campus in February for a concert which will include the Fauré Requiem.

In addition to its regular participation in Sunday morning services, the Choir will be featured in the annual Carol Worship Service Dec. 11.

## Computer Center Started

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going on for several months. The first college records to be converted to data-processing techniques will be from the Recorder's and Alumnae offices.

Establishment of the Center grew out of recommendations made by Systemations, Inc., of Boston, following a year's study of the feasibility of this joint facility. The study was financed by a grant from the Old Dominion Foundation.

Peter V. Daniel, assistant to the president and treasurer of Sweet Briar, is chairman of the three-college coordinating committee to plan the Center, direct and implement the entire project.



T.I.A.A. photo

September was Sweet Briar Month, as shown in this display mounted by the Teachers' Insurance & Annuity Association in the lobby of the General Telephone Co. Bldg. in New York. During that time, it was viewed by several thousand passers-by.



## New Chaplain Begins His Campus Ministry

Sweet Briar's new chaplain, the Rev. Alexander M. Robertson, has already proved his ability as a minister and counselor and, in a lighter vein at a community picnic, as an entertainer in the manner of Sir Harry Lauder.

Mr. Robertson succeeded the Rev. Frank M. McClain, who resigned after four years as chaplain to continue his studies at Cambridge University. The McClain family went to England in August and expects to remain there for two years.

Before his appointment at Sweet Briar, Mr. Robertson had been rector at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Lynchburg for eight years. Earlier, he was in charge of St. Luke's Chapel in Alexandria, where he attended the Virginia Episcopal Theological Seminary and was ordained in 1950.

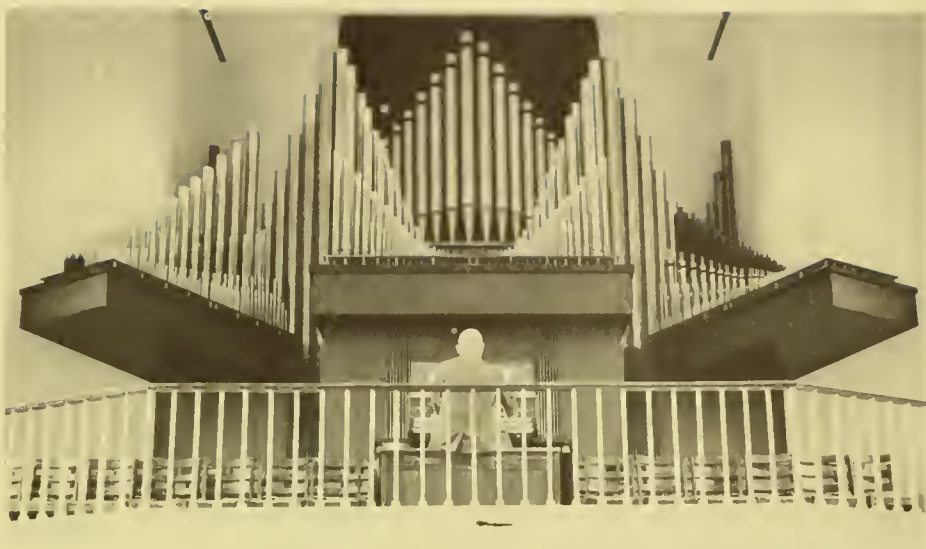
In announcing his resignation to the vestry and the congregation at St. Paul's last June, Mr. Robertson said in part: "One factor that weighs heavily in my decision to accept this call is the growing turmoil, violence, secularism, and general immorality which seems to be growing on the campuses of many universities and colleges. A college such as Sweet Briar is a key post. . . in fostering the Christian faith and in developing the kind of citizens who will lead our country in a growth of righteousness. . . It is highly important that these future wives and mothers should be strong in the Christian faith as they leave college to pursue their vocations. It is the responsibility of the chaplain to do all in his power to help these persons grow in this direction. . ."

Mr. Robertson was in business in Pittsburgh for a number of years before World War II, when he enlisted in the Navy. Later he taught music for two years at Fork Union Military Academy.

Music has long been his avocation and while he was studying at Alexandria he served as Seminary organist, taught music at Episcopal High School, and was minister of music at the Fifth Baptist Church in Washington.

During his residence in Lynchburg, Mr. Robertson counseled students at Lynchburg College and at Randolph-Macon Woman's College. Active in community affairs, he was a director of the United Fund and of the Little Theatre; president of the Community Concerts Association and of the Lynchburg Ministerial Association; and was a member of the Advisory Board of the Florence Crittendon Home.

A trustee of the diocese of Southwestern Virginia, Mr. Robertson has



Gene Campbell photo

Compositions by J. S. Bach were chosen by Dr. John R. Shannon, chapel organist, for the first formal recital, late in October, on the superb organ which was installed in the new chapel last summer. Designed and built by the Holtkamp Organ Co., of Cleveland, the three-manual, 27-stop organ, encased in walnut, has a total of 1,955 pipes ranging from 16 feet to 1/2 inch. It is in daily use for practice and teaching, and its beautiful tone enhances three weekly services. Sweet Briar is grateful to Mrs. Joe J. Perkins, Wichita Falls, Tex., for this magnificent gift to the college, given in honor of her daughter, Mrs. Charles N. Prothro, '39, and granddaughter, Mrs. Frank Yaeger (Kathryn Prothro, '61).

## Princeton Trustee Named

Robert C. Tyson, a member of Sweet Briar's Board of Directors since 1965 and chairman of its Committee on Investments and Finance, has been inducted as a Trustee of Princeton University, to serve a four-year term.

He played a key role in the university's successful \$53 million campaign for funds a few years ago, and has also served his Alma Mater in several other important capacities.

Elected to the Board of Overseers at Sweet Briar in 1961, he had previously been a member of the Parents' Advisory Board. His daughter Virginia, now Mrs. Ralph Lawrence, is a 1958 graduate of Sweet Briar.

A director and chairman of the Finance Committee of the U. S. Steel Corp., Mr. Tyson is also a trustee of Mercersburg Academy, and is a member of the visiting committee of the Harvard Business School and of the advisory board of the Hoover Institute, Stanford University.

held several diocesan offices, including chairman of its department of missions for two terms.

Mrs. Robertson is the former Dorothy Gilling, of Pittsburgh. Their older son is serving in the Air Force; their daughter is a sophomore at Virginia Intermont College, and their younger son is a student at Virginia Episcopal School in Lynchburg.

## STUDENT HONORS

**Mary K. Benedict Scholar:** Grace Gould, '67

**Manson Memorial Alumnae Scholar:** Peggy Pittman, '67

**McVea Scholars:** Sally Ann Twedell, '67; Patty Skarda, '68; Maria Ward, '69.

**Junior Honors:** Ann Banks, Anne Kinsey, Frances Kirven, Sherilyn Klaerner,\* Catherine Porter, Camilla Reid,\* Patty Skarda, Pam Trimmingham,\* Ann Webster,\* Cecilia Williamson, Christine Witcover.

\*Junior year abroad

**Dean's List:** *Seniors* Jane Hansford, Stephanie Lucas, Margaret Moran, Margaret Williams; *Juniors* Anne Kinsey, Frances Kirven, Catherine Porter, Marie Sushka, Cecilia Williamson, Christine Witcover; *Sophomores* Bryan Alphin, Marnie Calder, Jane Davis, Jan Huguenin, Jane Illingworth, Georgiana de Paul, Pamela Sinex, Maria Ward

**Tau Phi:** *Seniors* Mary Cary Ambler, Priscilla Blackstock, Susanne Brown, Polly Eells, Hallam Hurt, Norvell Jones, Carroll Long, Marion MacRae, Peggy Pittman, Stella-Mae Renchard; *Juniors* Ann Banks, Pamela Burwell, Francine Frate, Frances Kirven, Patty Skarda.

## Miss Clapp Now in India

Board member Margaret Clapp has gone to India to serve for at least a year as principal of Lady Doak College, a small liberal arts college for women founded in 1948 and located at Madurai, Madras.

Miss Clapp retired last June from the presidency of Wellesley College, where she had been for 17 years. She was elected to Sweet Briar's Board of Overseers in 1965.

## Foreign Study Exchange Has Long History Here

Student exchange and foreign study have long been traditions at Sweet Briar, where the first French girl was welcomed in 1918. In the early '30s, the college had its first representative in the University of Delaware Foreign Study Program, which became the Sweet Briar Junior Year in France in 1948, and sent students to St. Andrews University in Scotland for the first time.

In the past 48 years, girls have come to Sweet Briar from many lands. The list is long and varied: Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Canada, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lebanon, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Scotland, Serbia, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and Viet Nam. Some stayed only one year, but at least 25 remained to get Sweet Briar degrees.

A St. Andrews Scholarship was established at Sweet Briar in 1950, and St. Andrews accepts two Sweet Briar juniors each year. Adrienne Hall, of Edinburgh, is this year's Scottish student.

With the establishment of the French Corridor several years ago, a French student has been enrolled each year as *assistante* here. Régine Gillet, of Tours, is now holding this position.

Another current foreign scholarship holder is Sara Granath, of Kolsva,



Photo courtesy of Cunard Steam-Ship Co.

Juniors who sailed Sept. 7 for a year of foreign study include: (front row) Mary Cante, Camden, S.C.; Constance Chalmers, Los Angeles; Adelaide Russo, Bridgeport, Conn.; Sarah Massey, Richmond; Lucy Blundon, Tucson; Jule Seibels, Jackson, Miss. (standing) Ann Webster, Chevy Chase, Md.; Jeanne Brassel, Springfield, Va.; Wendy Montgomery, Short Hills, N.J.; Sherilyn Klaerner, Darien, Conn.; Celia Newberg, Norfolk; Sophie MacKenzie, Portsmouth; Mary Clark, Rochester, N.Y.; Camilla Reid, Midlothian, Va.; Amy Thompson, Piscataway, N.J.; Katherine Cooley, Princess Anne, Md.; Kathryn Hemphill, Hickory, N.C. Amy and Kathryn are at the University of Aberdeen and Camilla is at St. Andrews University in Scotland; the others are enrolled in the Sweet Briar Junior Year in France, which also includes two not pictured: Elizabeth Cadwalader, Baltimore, and Pamela Trimmingham, Bermuda.

Sweden.

Sweet Briar juniors, increasingly since World War II, have gone to other countries for a year of study. The largest number, 147, have been enrolled in the Junior Year in France since 1948. Sixty-eight have attended St. Andrews, and others have studied elsewhere in Scotland and in Austria, England, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Spain, and Switzerland.

This year, 16 are in France, four are in Scotland, one is in Sweden, one in North Wales, and one in Italy.

## Parents' Day

Sweet Briar welcomed more than 500 guests from all corners of the country on Parents' Day, Oct. 24. The sun shown brightly, the campus was at its October best, and the parents indicated that they greatly enjoyed the college's 20th Parents' Day program.

The busy day ended with a candlelight dinner followed by "Spoon River Anthology," the first of this year's Paint & Patches presentations, directed by Richard Busch, new drama instructor.

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